[English]

Supply of M-17 Helicopters & T-80 Battle Tanks by Russia to Pakistan

901. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russian M-17 helicopters and T-80 battle tanks have found their way to Pakistan inspite of Russian promise to India that this war equipment will not be supplied to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up the matter with Russia; and

(c) if so, the Russian response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) According to our information, Russian has supplied some MI-17 civilian transport helicopters to Pakistan in 1996. It has not supplied T-80 battle tanks or other arms to Pakistan. The Russian authorities have on several occasions provided high level categorical assurances that Russia was committed not to supplying arms to Pakistan.

Height of new A.T.C. Towers

902. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the height of new ATC Towers in Mumbai and Chennai airports;

(b) whether it is permissible under safety norms;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the action taken thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d) The matter is under examination by an expert committee.

[Translation]

Morning Service to Delhi from Varanasi

903. SHRI VIDYASAGAR SONKER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether morning air services are available from Varanasi to Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to introduce the morning air services from Varanasi to Delhi in the interest of passengers of adjoining districts of Varanasi such as Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Mirzapur, etc ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, Indian Airlines has no plans to operate a morning service from Varanasi to Delhi. Private operators with suitable aircraft are being encouraged to add more stations including Varanasi on their network subject to viability.

[English]

Refining Capacity

904. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total refining capacity of Indian refineries during 1996-97;

(b) the extent to which the domestic needs of petroleum products are being met by these refineries;

(c) whether refining capacities are being fully utilised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The total refining capacity as on 1.4.1997 was 61.55 MMTPA.

(b) the production of petroleum products *vis-a-vis* the domestic needs for the year 1996-97 is given below:

(figures in MMT)

Production	Demand	Shortfall
59.24	79.16	19.92

(c) and (d) The overall refining capacity utilisation of the refineries for the year 1996-97 was 104%.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Memorandum of Understanding between Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd. and Department of Defence Production and supply for the year 1997-98.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English Versions) between the

Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited and the Department of Defence Production and Supplies, Ministry of Defence, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2186/97]

Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 1996, etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Murasoli Maran, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:—

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 1 of 1997)—(Commercial) for the year ended the 31st March, 1996 (Review of Accounts)

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2187/97]

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 2 of 1997)—(Commercial) for the year ended the 31st March, 1996 (Comments on Accounts)

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2188/97]

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 3 of 1997)—(Commercial) for the year ended the 31st March, 1996 (Audit Observations).

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2189/97]

Notification Regarding Ministry of Surface Transport (Roads Wing) Central Engg. Service (Roads) Group 'A' etc.

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under proviso to Article 309 of the Constitution:—

(i) The Ministry of Surface Transport (Roads Wing) Central Engineering Service (Roads) Group 'A' (Amendment) Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 182(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1997.

(ii) The Ministry of Surface Transport (Roads Wing) Central Engineering Pool Group 'A' (Amendment) Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 183(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1997.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2190/97]

Annual Report and Review ot Working of Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, 1995—97) etc.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Muhi Ram Saikia, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2191/97]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Social Research, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2192/97]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, for the year 1995-96.